REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 and 13-16 are now pending. Claims 10 and 11 had been withdrawn from consideration. As required by the Examiner, non-elected claims 10 and 11 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to pursue unclaimed subject matter in a divisional or continuing application.

The specification has been revised above to correct obvious typographical errors.

Claim 12 was objected to as being in improper dependent form. To advance prosecution, claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice.

Original claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Ziegler. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 1 and 6 have been revised above to recite more particularly that the first unitary material is formed to have nail portions for the plurality of metal terminals and a plurality of arc-shaped members connected the nail portions at radially inside portions thereof. Furthermore, method claims 1 and 6 provide that liquid resinous material is charged to the radial inside of the arc-shaped members in the dies to mold the pre-commutator unit. This feature of the invention is described in particular at page 9, lines 2-8. As a consequence of this feature, resinous material does not stick to the nails and moreover the arc-shaped members can thereafter be removed substantially without cutting the resinous material of the pre-commutator unit.

Ziegler does not teach or suggest the step of charging liquid resinous material into the radial inside of arc-shaped members in an assembled die to mold a pre-commutator unit. More specifically, as understood for example from Figures 12, 13 and 14, and Figures 16 and 18, although Ziegler discloses interconnections between his

terminal portions, Ziegler does not direct the liquid resin flow to (only) a radial inside of any interconnecting portions but rather fully encapsulates the interconnections and cuts are then formed in the molded assembly as illustrated at 108 in Figure 12 and 14. See also Figure 16 and column 20, lines 29-38, describing tabs 154 as cut through as radial interstices 108 are machined, interstices 108 being machined radially inward from the outer circumferential surface of the carbon cylinder. Thus, the invention claimed, wherein the "connectors" are radially outward of the outer circumferential surface of the molded assembly is not anticipated nor obvious.

Inasmuch as Ziegler does not teach the method steps noted above, in particular directing the resinous material to a radial inside of the arc-shaped connecting portions, it is submitted that the invention of claims 1 and 6 is not anticipated by nor obvious from Ziegler.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Strobi in view of Ziegler or vise versa. Claim 12 has been canceled in view of the Examiner's formal objection.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Michelle N. Lester
Reg. No. 32,331

MNL:slj
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100